



NUSLETTER

An educational publication of Childhood Sensuality Circle for the liberation of children and youth.

Vol. V, No. 5

December 1979

Valida Davila, Editor
Don Crestle, Assistant Editor

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD IN PERSPECTIVE

The International Year of the Child has come full circle. Reviewing the past months, what has been done to make this year a better one for needy children, or the sick, the abused and the oppressed children of the world?

Councils on health and education have been held in every government sector, and many conferences have been held this year on family stability. It's not possible to review everything that has been done, because the workshops were run on local levels from state to state.

Many IYC conferences addressed the legal rights of children. The Illinois Commission on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention examined the rights and treatment of children who commit crimes, including status offenders, who have committed 'crimes' that wouldn't be crimes if they were adults. Status offenses include running away from home, cutting school and (for girls who lead active sex lives) 'promiscuity.' More than 20% of children in jail have committed status offenses. Girls are nine times more likely than boys to be convicted. (Equal treatment under the law?)

The total number of children incarcerated in this Year of the Child is about one million, based on previous years' estimates. Few if any of the IYC conferences addressed the need for equal justice for children, which would mean granting them the same legal protections that are granted adults under the U.S. Constitution. Minors arrested by police without warrants have no legal means to challenge the arrest.

Cause for satisfaction among IYC supporters came early in the year in Sweden. A landmark ruling took effect there July 1, banning corporal punishment. Swedish parents are now forbidden by law to spank or humiliate their children. The Swedish Red Cross has assigned an ombudsman (official complaints investigator) for youth, and the Ministry of Justice is making videotapes that teach minors

about their rights. The Ministry is also distributing brochures to parents, to advise them how to raise children without spanking.

Back in America, the Supreme Court ruled on corporal punishment in a case where a student suffered a head injury that kept him face down in a bed for a week after being repeatedly beaten. The Court ruled that corporal punishment is not unconstitutional. The Eighth Amendment forbids "cruel and unusual punishment;" women and blacks can no longer be legally beaten in the United States; -- but children are not similarly protected.

The United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child was promulgated twenty years ago and contains ten concise principles. Principle 7 calls for children to receive "free and compulsory" education. Twenty years after that principle was written, two million children are staying out of American schools. (Do they find the present school system stifling?) Principle 7 also promotes developing children's "individual judgment." But children in Warsaw, Indiana are having their judgments made for them by a hardnosed 'decency' committee that has stricken five books from the curriculum by burning them. (Nor, as every teacher knows, is this an isolated or exceptional case. Warsaw ghettos of the mind are common in our 'free' country. --ed.)

Principle 4 establishes children's need for adequate nutrition, and yet millions of American children remain hungry and malnourished, while the record worldwide is even worse. Principles 4, 6 and 7 support the most cherished need of childhood: the need to be a child, to play, to laugh, have fun, to make mistakes and learn, to be thrilled with life and to be loved.

There is one principle the Declaration omits: a right Americans hold high above all others. Nowhere does the U N bill mention freedom of expression. Children are denied freedom of expression: freedom to speak or think as one wishes, opportunity to express one's opinion, liberty to choose one's lifestyle or sexual identity. This is denied children.

In perspective, the U N Declaration was a human rights advancement carrying a moral power to free children from neglect and cruelty. The Year of the Child has fostered new fiscal and long-term welfare programs designed to reduce poverty and child abuse. These are important accomplishments. But a 12-month campaign based on a bill of rights that doesn't grant children freedom of expression has overlooked something vital.

When I called my state IYC Committee, they were unable to tell me of one program that was being organized and led by children (except for an art exhibition). Social workers, teachers, law enforcers and other adults have spoken about children's needs and rights this year. But children haven't had the chance to speak for themselves.

Crestle

We are continuing with this December 1979 issue to report on I Y C as we have received more articles and reports than we could print in the Nusletter for October 1979. I Y C will be ongoing even after December, for reporting and we hope for a long time in implementation.

A Mag, a Book, the Real Magook

Title of an article in Mac Lean's Canada of April 4, 1979. Magook is hybrid — part magazine, part book with dominance on book. Marilyn Day, a Toronto editor, conceived and developed Magook as a means of mass-marketing a line of children's books that could compete with the American children's book industry. It comes out looking like a magazine but has a book at the front and magazine at the back. Children write and interview for Magook, but not exclusively, except for the May, 1979, edition published as a tribute to the Year of the Child which was written almost entirely by children, including a book by a 17 year old boy.

Understanding Childhood

The Royal Bank of Canada's Monthly four page Newsletter for May, 1979, was entirely devoted to an article entitled, "Understanding Childhood." It recognizes that the institution of childhood in the western world has been changing at such a rapid rate that adults, including parents, are becoming more and more bewildered and some re-thinking has to be done to meet the growing rebellion of children and to recognize that all individuals have equal claims on dignity and respect. This is in line with CSC's position on the child's right to self-determination. Although recognizing that children should have rights the article ends with advice to parents that a full and frank explanation of the need to set certain rules, because children will no longer take "no" for an answer, is parents most painful device. (A parent slanted article)

-- Valida

Divide and Rule

"Ich Liebe Junges," an interesting flyer out of Hamburg, notes how psychological specialists love to chop up our sexuality -- that is to say, all our human feelings of love and tenderness -- into ever-smaller bits, and to label each bit with a "-phile" suffix. Pedophile ... homophile ... ephebophile ... embryophile ... necrophile ... Which brings up a question. How should we label this peculiar predilection so prevalent among "experts"? Is it philophilia or philophobia?

-- Lindsay Robinson

SYMPOSIUM ON CHILDHOOD SEXUALITY

One of the most promising conferences to develop during the Year of the Child has been the Symposium on Childhood Sexuality, held at the University of Montreal in Quebec. Sixty researchers from the social sciences and medicine gathered to present new data and to broaden their views.

Among the noteworthy speakers were psychologists Floyd M. Martinson and Calfred B. Broderick, who have contributed significantly to the understanding of early sexual development. Therapist Alayne Yates, author of Sex Without Shame, reported on "The Effect of Commonly Accepted Parenting Practice on Erotic Development," examining the often unwitting effects that parents can have on children's later sex lives, while Shere Hite, author of The Hite Report, looked at how fathers respond to their teenage daughters' sexuality.

Dr. Albert Ellis described therapies that deal with the sex problems of the young, while another presenter gauged the significance of pleasure and touching on developing sexuality. Sessions focused on incest, pedophilia and sexual abuse. Prof. Larry Constantine spoke on the impact of early sex experiences.

The Sex Education and Information Council of the United States (SEICUS) helped to sponsor the conference, as did the Canadian UNICEF. The symposium lasted three days (Sept. 7 - 9). If it furthers intelligent examination of childhood sexuality within the health professions, its influence may last much longer.

Crestle

Chief of Odyssey House Accused of Wasting Cash.

A former executive of Odyssey House charged that Dr. Judianne Densen-gerber, its director, wasted thousands of dollars in federal grants and contributions on herself instead of using the money to rehabilitate addicts. After 10 years of activity, this non-profit organization has facilities in 13 states and Australia, with a budget of more than \$3 million a year. John Malik, Odyssey's controller in 1974 and 1975 stated that Densen-gerber squandered thousands of dollars during his years at the treatment center. Malik charged that Odyssey paid more than \$15,000 for Densen-gerber's books not sold; that the center paid more than \$2200 for parking tickets on her car; that she delayed informing the board of directors that she authorized a \$500,000 insurance policy on herself and others; that more than \$3,000 was paid by Odyssey for rental of cars for her use; that more than \$100,000 in personal expenses were paid by Odyssey for tuxedos, furniture repair, birthday parties, massages, cheese baskets, candy grams, social directories and handouts; that Odyssey failed to pay certain taxes and insurance benefits for its employees, although these amounts were deducted from their pay check.

Densen-gerber denied all these charges to the N.Y. Post. Malik said the agency is structured to promote Densen-gerber, that she spent the money by setting up Account 13 in such a way that only she could sign the checks; that the amount in Account 13 amounted to about \$40,000 a year. Densen-gerber's salary is \$95,000 a year (remember Odyssey is supposed to be non-profit to anyone. Editor.) Malik also charged that D-g asked 2 senior executives of Odyssey to lend her \$6,000 each for a down payment on an estate for her in Connecticut. She took the money and then authorized annual raises of \$6,000 each for every year they worked thereafter. He does not know if D-g ever paid these men back. Odyssey has refused to open their books to The Post.

It will be remembered that Densen-gerber's crusade against kiddie porno in 1977 produced a rash of anti-obscenity statutes throughout the U.S. aimed at suppressing child porno publications. (New York Post, August 9, 1979.)

Peeing in the Pool

At a British swimming pool the management was receiving complaints about too many people peeing in the pool as they swam. To combat pee-pollution the management added a colorless chemical that only turns red in the presence of uric acid. The crimson fluid that streamed from adult polluters quickly enough deterred adults, whose faces turned as crimson as the water. However, children were delighted rather than ashamed, and were soon vying with one another as to who could produce the most brilliant display of cloudy red water!

This pee-in-the-pool episode goes to show that there is a kid sub-culture and an adult sub-culture. Which one is right? If the authorities suspend the kids' swimming privileges until they stop peeing in the pool, are the kids "self-regulating," or have they been regulated? Biophiles would say that the kids, far from being "self-regulating" had been aversely conditioned or "regulated" by a sado-masochistic culture.

However, a biophile family (a free family who loves life) might deal with peeing in the pool in this manner (altho if no one cared, the problem would not even arise in the free family's hot tub). Should anyone or all the other free family members object to one member peeing in the tub, then the tub-peeing member would use the tub alone or only with other tub pee-ers. When co discovered that sharing the hot tub with non-peer-ers was more fun than without them, then the tub peer-ers would probably alter their behavior. Mostly, greater or lesser positive re-enforcers are used by free families; rarely negative re-enforcers which are reserved for dangerous situations.

Conversely, sado-masochistic families rely mostly on negative re-enforcers that mold the self-perpetuating SMC character structure with its dualism, ageism, sexism, racism, morphism and violence. (SMC is our present culture that is in opposition to the pleasure principle.)

The above is excerpted from The Biophile of May 1979, a Pound Robin that aims to promote free family living and is encouraging its readers to join in the writing of a Love Dictionary that would help in getting people to use love words for love and sex, instead of the current hate words, street words and formal medical words.

Any member of C S C, subscriber to C S C Nusletter, or friend of C S C is cordially invited to participate in the writing of the Love Word Dictionary (LWD) without charge, except perhaps postage if the expense gets too heavy, by writing to Valida for the first issue of The Biophile of January 1979. This project was started in January in celebration of the 8th anniversary of C S C in a quiet way as we thought only a few would be more than curious and would want to follow thru. The LWD would be helpful to those writing on children's liberation to actually

use luv words in their work, which is part of the building of a free society for all.

Valida
Cultural Midwife

Here is an example of how to create luv words:

Birth-bed Proposed

Toronto (CP). When a woman gives birth in the hospital, the father should be able to climb into bed with her and the newborn infant, British social anthropologist Sheila Kitzinger said here. And any toddlers in the family should also be able to get into the birth bed, Ms. Kitzinger told the International Childbirth Education Conference. A mother of 5, Ms. Kitzinger has written 3 books on childbirth. Her children were all born at home and she stated she felt deep satisfaction when lying in bed with her babies and their father.

This item suggests a new word for the LWD: birthbed. It could serve both as a noun and a verb. As a noun, it would mean a bed large enough for the whole family to get into to cuddle and fondle a newborn (seems a natural). As a verb, it would refer to the practice of tactually and erotically feeling the newborn by the whole family while they were in bed together.

birthbed, birthbedded, birthbedding

(The item was taken from an article in the Sun, Canada, June 30, 1979.)

The Pedophiles' Progress in Europe.

The Netherlands

Information extracted from an interview in Pan with Gerard Zwerus, Chairman of the National Paedophile Workgroup of the Netherlands Society for Sexual Reform, and active in the struggle for sexual liberation of children; as recorded in PAN II, August 1979. (English language magazine on boy love.)

This National Paedophile Workgroup organized a Congress in 1977 in Amsterdam which gave them a lot of publicity and made them a legitimate, recognized organization. A police officer at this conference (which is quite usual in the Netherlands for conferences on sex) stated that the Rotterdam vice-squad would never initiate an action. A formal complaint would have to be made by the child's parents, preferably the child coself, and then they would try to talk the parents out of starting proceedings. This is still their policy. A lot of pedophiles actually go to the police with their personal problems! During a trial of a pedophile man the judge stated that the police should take a course in sexual practices on boys in puberty. (U.S. please copy. Editor.)

Organizations that 4 or 5 years ago refused to talk with the pedophile work group, including women's groups, are now talking with them. Zwerus stated that just as a woman should have the right to say "no," so a child should have the right to say "yes."

Now there are not many Dutch publications that write negatively about pedo. The right-wing paper, Telegraaf, doesn't publish anything about it now. Most of the others are very interested. The Dutch government established the Melai Commission in 1970 to work on changing the penal code. Now they are discussing whether to lower the age of consent, or to abolish it. The N P W wrote a report called "Age Boundaries on Moral Law" and presented it to the Commission. It recommends no age of consent. They consider there are already enough laws to protect people from other people; and that there should be no difference between children and adults in regard to sex practices. "Age Boundaries" was not only sent to the Melai Commission but to the Minister of Justice which got discussion going in Parliament with members of the various political parties. At this time it appears that the politicians will settle for 12 years, with some provision for making acts desired by a child younger than 12 not punishable.

The National Pedo Workgroup is forming a scientific committee to do solid, objective research on pedo. Zwerus considers this unnecessary because he doesn't need science to justify what is so self-evident, so obviously good. But if we want to change the law to get the majority behind us, we need scientific research. He thinks it very important to find out what children

experience who have contact with the police. We all agree they are damaged, but it would be useful to demonstrate if this is true through controlled research. The projects will probably be carried out by the University of Utrecht's sociology department. A report will be published within 3 or 4 years. It is important that it be good research, on the level of the Kinsey reports.

Valida
Cultural Midwife

A petition has been submitted by the Coornhert League, the Humanistic Association, the NUSH and Dr. Klamer, the radio pastor, to Justice Minister de Ruiter and both houses of parliament. The petition demands that youth sexuality be finally removed from the area of criminal behavior. It objects, among other things, to the arbitrary 'age of protection' of 16 years (current in Holland, not here!), which makes no distinction between forced contacts and desired intimacies. Interrogation of children by police and prosecutors can have harmful consequences. Prosecution of sexual relations among youths leads to legal uncertainties and arbitrariness, since treatment by police and prosecutors varies from place to place. (Translated from the German by Lindsay Robinson.)

In Germany

The German Paedophile Study and Work Association (DSAP), formerly of Dusseldorf, now of Krefeld, is to become a registered society (verein). Dr. Frits Bernard of The Netherlands was recently elected to its board of directors.

The Dusseldorf GFSS will also maintain a paedophile workgroup. Dr. Bernard will coordinate the work of GFSS and of DSAP. (From Gay Journal, Germany, August 1979.)

Abolishing age of consent

At least 3500 British schoolgirls below 16 years of age are becoming pregnant every year, says a sociological/medical study recently published in London.

The study is initiated and financed by the government and performed by a group of social scientists. The report concludes that the sexual age of consent, which in Great Britain is 16 years, should be abolished because it no longer is according to reality concerning the sexual life of British teenagers.

The group of scientists means that because of the law the schoolgirls do not dare to visit a doctor when they become pregnant, and the boys are often reluctant to grant their responsibility as a father. (Reuter) (Reprinted from Buletin magazine of NAPP-Pedophil Arberds-gruppe, Oslo, Norway, No. 3, 1979 5 Asgang.)

The Dr. Frits Bernard Foundation

In March, 1976, the following report appeared in the "Child Sexuality Magazine" under the title, "A Child Sexuality Documentation Center."

When pedophilia was still regarded as a sexual pathology that could best be cured by long-term imprisonment, the creation of a pedophile documentation center would clearly have been an unwise move. Whether it is a wise move in the Netherlands today, only the future can show. But it appears clear that if such a center is to be founded anywhere in Europe, it will have to be in the Netherlands. It is really high time that we do something to improve understanding of this subject and to facilitate scientific research, both present and future.

In the past, anyone who wished to compile documents about pedophilia usually thought better and desisted, or at least took care that the executors of his estate would destroy all such books, photographs, letters, diaries and other souvenirs. That is why we have such a pitifully scant record of pedophilia from the recent past.

Historically important material is still being destroyed every day. It is still socially dangerous to possess too much of such material; it may fall into the hands of one's family, one's charwoman, or one's friendly neighborhood policeman. This is true even for "neutral" materials -- items that cannot cause difficulties for third parties: photographs of strangers, diaries without names or addresses, belles-lettres, outdated (?) erotic booklets, one's own and others' drawings, first drafts of letters, discarded scraps of daydreams. And yet this is material that must be preserved, for it gives insight into a socially condemned kind of eroticism. It is the fruit of a hypocritical society.

During the last few years, an archive and documentation center on pedophilia has been begun through private initiative. We hope that in the near future this center can be housed in a foundation whose object will be to advance the scientific study of the phenomenon of pedophilia in all respects and by all legal means. The purpose of the archive is to be strictly scientific. Donors must be assured that their contributions will be used only for scientific research and that, if they so desire, their material will be kept sealed for a period of their choosing. Persons wishing to make use of the archives will be required to submit a petition to the foundation board of directors, outlining the object of their study.

No such restrictions will limit use of the documentation center, where newspaper clippings, magazine articles, radio and television broadcast tapes, technical literature and similar documents will be kept. The collection of pedophile belles-lettres, photograph books and such will not be located here; they will form part of the archive.

An extensive quantity of documents is already on hand, and new additions arrive daily. Every scrap of paper relating to pedophilia and/or child sexuality is welcome. We can assure proper care of all contributions.

Bernard Foundation -- 2

The collection already includes more than 800 photographic books and pamphlets, as well as at least 200 books and magazines on the subject and on related topics.

Note: Since this article appeared, the Foundation has become a reality. Its charter sets forth the following goals:

1. The furtherance of scientific research on child sexuality, in the widest sense, both within and outside the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
2. To promote publication of the results of such research;
3. To promote objective understanding of the subject, based on the research findings.

The Foundation will attempt to attain this goal through all legal means, including:

- a. The collection and administration of a library and documentation center on the subject. This library and center are intended for the above-mentioned scientific research, and will be as exhaustive as possible.
- b. The library alone can serve indirectly as a source of enlightenment.
- c. Documentation may include published documents (books, periodicals, offprints, brochures, pamphlets, flyers, clippings, etc.) and personal papers (letters, memoirs, diaries, notes, records, etc.), as well as photographs, tapes and disc recordings.
- d. The Bernard Foundation guarantees that any material entrusted to its care can be preserved unopened in a secure place for whatever period the donor may stipulate.
- e. The Bernard Foundation will endeavor to further scientific research through publication of catalogues and inventories of its library and documents.
- f. The Bernard Foundation shall, insofar as possible within the limits of national and international laws, encourage all other activities that advance the aims mentioned above.

The Foundation is located at Gijsinglaan 350, 3026 B6 Rotterdam.

--The Board of Directors

At C S C's 2nd Annual Conference on Sept. 29 & 30, a decision was made to aid Don Crestle, assistant editor of C S C Nusletter and our youngest active member, to obtain a PhD in social sciences in order to pursue a career working for children's liberation. Don has been the foremost spokesperson for C S C for the past 3 Lifestyles Conventions, has published articles in magazines on children's sexual freedom, and drafted the C S C Position Paper and Policy Statement together with Valida. We are gathering together information to find financial aid either from foundations, grants-in-aid, or a fellowship program, or even interested individuals. Your suggestions how to reach such sources are solicited.

AMNESTY FOR LOVE AND AFFECTION

An International Conference held at
Oslo, Norway, June 22-24, 1979

The question was raised about whether pedophilia should be supported by gay organizations. Kim Friele of the Norwegian Gay Association stated that the fact of our separating sexuality in a special sex crime law is itself an expression of our collective fright of sexual feelings. She raised the question of political strategy -- whether it is wisest to seek a gradual lowering of the age of consent, or whether we should work directly for complete liberation of oppressed child sexuality.

There were representatives from Great Britain, Holland, France, Sweden and Norway -- from RFSU-Norge (the Union of Sex Information) -- from the women's and men's movements, from gay associations, from the press and the Norwegian Parliament. The conference was arranged by Pedofil Arbeidgruppe (NAPP) who publish an illustrated magazine, NAPP-Buletin, Postbox, 101, Blendern, Oslo 3, Norway.

Thor Langfeldt of Oslo, a school psychologist, spoke on the history of modern oppression of child sexuality and the difference between what researchers know about child sexuality and what the average citizen believes being so great that he was skeptical about how this conference would be reported by Norwegian television and news agency reporters who were invited.

Dr. Fritz Bernard, a Dutch psychologist who has done extensive research on pedophilia, spoke on the subject as a natural variation of child sexuality, and the necessity of separating pedophilia from sexual exploitation of children, as the concepts are confused.

Tom O'Carroll, chairperson of Pedophile Information Exchange (PIE) of England, spoke on the violent reaction to PIE's attempts to adjust British law to the realities of what we now know about child sexuality and his even being prevented from presenting his views in public.

[REDACTED], a Norwegian teacher, warned that in sex crime cases it is not exploitation that is punished, but sexuality itself. Others who attended the conference were a policeman who spoke about losing his job as a result of befriending a 15-year old boy and the discovery that they had been masturbating together, and was cited for criminal conduct. The case is going to a higher court. And the leader of the Indian community in Nuremburg was there, hitchhiking to Oslo after a several-week-long hunger strike for children's rights. This Indian community is a place of refuge for children and young people who have run away from home, where they can live as long as they wish, and have the same rights and duties as adults.

During the discussion, Thor Langfeldt mentioned that during the International Conference on Sexology in Rome in 1978, it had been considered obvious that child sexuality should not be criminalized.

At the end of the conference a work group was appointed from various countries, to set up an international association with the purpose of

working for legal reforms on child sexuality. The group will be called Amnesty for Child Sexuality and will be located in Oslo.

(Information from an article, Amnesty for Love and Affection, published in "Revolt," a Swedish gay magazine, Aseda, Sweden, September 1979, after being translated into English by Michael Holm, one of the editors, especially for CSC.)

No More War Toys For Swedish Children

Beginning December 1, 1979, according to an agreement between the Swedish government and the toy industry, all sales of war toys will be discontinued. Similar action is being discussed in Norway where a poll showed that 87 percent of the people want to ban all or some war toys. (Information from Atlas World Press Review of August 1979 via a CSC subscriber.)

Articles printed in this issue of CSC Nusleter express the opinions of the writers of the articles and are not necessarily those of CSC. Our Nusleter is an open forum for the expression of opinion concerning children's total liberation and related subjects.

We recommend that you file all CSC Nusletters and inserts for study and reference. Reliable and positive information on children's liberation is difficult to come by. We consider parts of our Nusleter and our reprints to be source material.

CSC Nusleter

POB 5164, San Diego CA 92105

Order form

(6 mo. sub -- 3 issues)

Subscription (U.S.): \$6.50

Membership or

Sustainer Sub: \$25*

Subscription (foreign): \$9.00

Super sustainer: \$50*

*includes 1 yr sub to CSC Nusleter
Checks to Valida Davila, editor

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____